

Sinclair Broadcasting's foray into partisan politics via the airing (which may be illegal) of a blatantly partisan political smear against John Kerry proves once again that large corporations cannot be trusted to serve the public's interest as required by federal law, and as morally required by those who believe in democracy and the responsibilities of the free press to serve the people.

In every market where this centrally-controlled corporation broadcasts, there will be huge numbers of people whose political views are opposed to those represented in this highly opinionated piece that is being falsely touted as 'real news'. What voice do those who disagree have in this process if Sinclair chooses not to listen? This is the most frightening of scenarios for our democracy's future, and I urge the FCC to take action, both to prevent this event from occurring and to amend regulations so that the power of the broadcast pulpit is not in the hands of the few, whoever they may be.

Thank you.